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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR 30 November 1951

SUBJECT Political Conditions in Bosnia and Montenegro

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Recently the entire People's Committee of Pljevlja, in Bosnia, were arrested on the charge of Cominformism. The investigation was conducted by Joko Knezevic who was sent from Belgrade. The chief of the UDB in that area is Milosav Lacman, while the delegate to the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party is Vladimir Stjepovic.
2. A great deal of military activity has been observed in Bosnia. This has been evidenced by the arrival of entire regiments which have been placed under the command of Jovo Kapa, an agent of Minister of the Interior Alexandar Rankovic, for the purpose of combatting the increase in activities of the nationalist rebels. The nationalist rebels are headed by Bozo Bjelica, Vlada Sipic and Milija Vojnovic. On 24 July 1950 a group of these rebels assassinated the most prominent Communists in Novi Pazar, among whom were Marinko Golubovic, a Deputy to Parliament in Belgrade and a "hero of the people"; his son; and Jovan Jaksic, Secretary of the District Committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party.
3. According to source, some students have had to escape from Yugoslavia because they are liable to arrest for participation in a nationalist organization at the University of Belgrade.
4. With regard to American aid, the source reports that food had been distributed to the people of Bosnia on only one occasion. The rations distributed at that time included 400 grams of butter; 400 grams of powdered eggs; and 900 grams of powdered milk per person. During the month of August 1951 the same rations were distributed to workers, students and officers only.
5. According to source, the Cominform movement is widespread in Montenegro. Many Cominformists have been imprisoned and of these, a great number allegedly have been murdered without trial. Summary executions have been justified by the allegation that those prisoners attempted to escape. The Cominformists have organized several units; however, these clandestine formations, being unsupported by the people, have tended to be confined to the Albanian frontier from where they receive supplies.

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6. A short time ago a new commander was appointed to the South Adriatic region. He is Colonel Nikola Popovic, the son of a Montenegrin separatist, a certain General Popovic.
7. In source's opinion, any attack whatever on Yugoslavia will provoke an insurrection among the people and the members of armed forces, who in such an event, would liquidate all of their leaders without regard for the consequences. The Serbs and Croats might fight against the Russians, but only if the Allies assume command.

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